

ABSTRACT

Described herein are methods to enhance the production of more highly fermentable carbohydrates in plants, especially forage grasses. The invention provides for transgenic plants transformed with expression vectors containing a DNA sequence encoding ferulic acid esterase I from *Aspergillus*, preferably *A. niger*. The expression vectors may optionally comprise a DNA sequence encoding xylanase from *Trichoderma*, preferably *T. reesei*. Expression of the enzyme(s) is targeted to specific cellular compartments, in specific tissues and under specific environmental conditions. Uses of this invention include, but are not limited to, forage with improved digestibility for livestock, and enhanced biomass conversion.

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